

## HONORING THE LIFE OF RONALD CRABB

**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 2, 2010*

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to mark the passing of my friend and constituent Ronald Crabb who died tragically while working on the site of the Kleen Energy Plant in Middletown on February 7, 2010. Ron was a devoted father, husband, and son, and his loss has been felt by countless individuals in his community and by those who called him a friend.

He was a skilled tradesman who exemplified hard work and citizenship by constantly giving back to the people of Colchester. As a pipefitter for the Connecticut Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 777, he took on leadership roles to ensure the safety and improve the lives of his fellow union members. Ron was also an active member of his community. He served on Colchester's Democratic Town Committee and, until recently, was a member of the Board of Finance for several years.

It was Ron's love for his wife, Jodi, and his two sons that made him so passionate and upbeat. Anyone fortunate enough to call him a friend would tell you that he kept their love with him no matter where he was or what he was doing. He loved spending time with them and spoke fondly of them in their absence.

On the job and in life, Ron had a seemingly endless desire and ability to help. He did this by putting his good values into practice and his town, friends, and family are better for it. He left us too early and we will miss him dearly. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss of Ronald Crabb.

## HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LIFE OF NINA SIMONE

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 2, 2010*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of legendary American Jazz musician and civil rights activist Nina Simone. A native of Tryon, North Carolina, Nina Simone was born Eunice Kathleen Waymon on February 21, 1933. In the United States House of Representatives, it is an honor to represent Ms. Simone's birthplace and the town where she began her legacy of musical innovation and civil rights activism.

Ms. Simone began playing the piano at age three and made her first classical piano debut at the age twelve. During this first recital she witnessed her parents being escorted from the front row to make room for a Caucasian family. Ms. Simone refused to play until her parents were seated in the front row. This event marked the beginning of a lifetime of civil rights activism.

As the sixth of seven children in a poor family, Ms. Simone began her musical career singing as an accompanist to earn extra income for her family. As the civil rights struggle developed in the United States, so did her music. In any number of her protest songs,

one can hear her emotional response to the situations of African Americans in the United States.

By 1974, Ms. Simone was traveling the world. Her music, both in French and English, has been an inspiration for artists around the world. The Eunice Waymon-Nina Simone Project honors the legacy of Nina Simone in Tryon, her hometown in Western North Carolina. The Project honors her remarkable life and musical contributions. The Project also seeks to inspire and support talented youth to reach their full potential through a variety of scholarship programs. On the 21st of February they will be unveiling a life-size bronze statue of Ms. Simone. The Eunice Waymon-Nina Simone Project keeps her legacy alive in Western North Carolina.

Ms. Simone passed away on April 21, 2003 at the age of 70 in the French countryside. Her daughter, Lisa Celeste Stroud, is also an actress and singer. Born in New York, Ms. Stroud spent much time traveling the world with her mother before enlisting in the United States Air Force. Today, she is a successful singer with a resume that includes starring in the Tim Rice Musical "Aida."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Ms. Simone's 77th birthday, and celebrating her extraordinary accomplishments as both an extraordinary jazz musician and strong civil rights activist.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 2, 2010*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor the week of Monday, February 22, 2010–Friday, February 26, 2010.

For Monday, February 22, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote #49 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4425), "aye" on rollcall vote #50 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4238).

For Tuesday, February 23, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote #51 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1083, which provides for consideration of H.R. 2314), "aye" on rollcall vote #52 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1066), "aye" on rollcall vote #53 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1059), "aye" on rollcall vote #54 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1039), "aye" on rollcall vote #55 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1046), "aye" on rollcall vote #56 (on agreeing to the Hastings (WA) amendment to H.R. 2314), "aye" on rollcall vote #57 (on agreeing to the Flake amendment to H.R. 2314), "no" on rollcall vote #58 (on agreeing to the Abercrombie amendment to H.R. 2314), "no" on rollcall vote #59 (on passage of H.R. 2314).

For Wednesday, February 24, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote #60 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1098, which provides for consideration of H.R. 4626),

"aye" on rollcall vote #61 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1074), "aye" on rollcall vote #62 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 944), "aye" on rollcall vote #63 (on motion to recommit H.R. 4626 with instructions), "aye" on rollcall vote #64 (on passage of H.R. 4626), "aye" on rollcall vote #65 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1085).

For Thursday, February 25, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote #66 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1105, which provides for consideration of H.R. 2701), "aye" on rollcall vote #67 (on motion to concur in Senate amendments to H.R. 3961), "aye" on rollcall vote #68 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 227).

For Friday, February 26, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote #69 (on agreeing to the Reyes (TX) amendment to H.R. 2701), "aye" on rollcall vote #70 (on agreeing to the Hastings (FL) amendment to H.R. 2701), "aye" on rollcall vote #71 (on agreeing to the Schauer amendment to H.R. 2701), "aye" on rollcall vote #72 (on motion to recommit H.R. 2701 with instructions), "no" on rollcall vote #73 (on passage of H.R. 2701), "aye" on rollcall vote #74 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 238).

## HONORING EDWARD F. GORHAM

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 2, 2010*

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Edward F. Gorham of Randolph, Maine on the occasion of his recent retirement as president of the Maine AFL–CIO.

For over forty years, Eddie Gorham has been a voice for working men and women in Maine. He has been tireless in fighting to ensure that ordinary Mainers have a chance to join the middle class, and he embodies the Maine values of fairness and equality. Born March 8, 1944 to Joe and Betty Gorham, strong union members with roots in Connemara, Ireland, Eddie grew up in the Munjoy Hill neighborhood of Portland. After graduating from the University of Maine with a degree in history and government in 1966, Eddie heeded President John F. Kennedy's call to service and went to India as a volunteer with the Peace Corps. Back in Maine, Eddie joined Local 29 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers and became a journeyman boilermaker.

In 1976, Eddie began his nearly thirty-five years of dedicated service to Maine workers at the Maine AFL–CIO. During his tenure there, he never stopped advocating for the Maine men and women who build our ships, make our paper and keep our state running. Eddie started out as a legislative liaison. He quickly and deftly learned the political and legislative process in Augusta, participating in labor committee sessions, researching and revising labor bills and lobbying for their passage. In 1977, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer, a position he held for twenty-two years until becoming president in 1999. During these years,